



**Department of
Toxic Substances
Control**

*The Mission of
the Department of
Toxic Substances
Control is to
provide the highest
level of safety, and
to protect public
health and the
environment from
toxic harm*



State of California



**California
Environmental
Protection Agency**

Fact Sheet - January 2010

The Draft Removal Action Work Plan for Hillview Middle School is Available for Review

Under the oversight of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the Menlo Park City School District (District) has prepared a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the modernization and expansion of the Hillview Middle School (HMS). HMS is located at 1100 Elder Avenue in Menlo Park, San Mateo County, California. The purpose of the proposed draft RAW is to remove soils contaminated with chlordane from certain portions of the 9.36-acre HMS campus. The chlordane contamination stems from the past use of termite insecticides. The chlordane contamination must be first removed prior initiating new construction in this area B of HMS. The map on page 4 shows the HMS campus, and the areas where the contaminated soil must be removed. During the 30-Day Public Comment Period, the public has the opportunity to review and submit comments on the draft RAW. The public comment period runs from January 20, 2011 through February 24, 2011.



30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DTSC encourages you to review and provide comment on the draft RAW public comment period beginning on **January 20, 2011** and ending on **February 24, 2011**. At this time, a public meeting has not been scheduled for the draft RAW, however DTSC will consider holding a meeting upon request. All comments must be postmarked or received no than February 24, 2011. Please send comments to:

Jose Luevano
DTSC Project Manager
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
JLuevano@dtsc.ca.gov



Site Information

The HMS campus is a rectangular parcel bounded by Santa Cruz Avenue to the east, Elder Avenue to the south, and residential areas to the west and north. The proposed soil removal would occur in the southern portion of the Site (see map on page 4). The removal area, within some of the planter boxes of Area (B), is presently occupied by classroom buildings, a school library, administrative offices, and a parking lot. Soil samples did not reveal contamination in Area A, so no removal is planned there.

Investigation Findings

Investigations were conducted to evaluate potential impacts from chlordane detected in soil samples collected within Area (B). Elevated levels of chlordane were reported in five parts of Area (B). The District intends to expand the existing school, but before that can be done, DTSC recommended that the District prepare a cleanup plan RAW to remove and dispose of contaminated soil to protect students and staff who will attend the school.

Draft Removal Action Workplan

The draft RAW summarizes previous environmental investigations and identifies the preferred cleanup alternative to prevent or reduce potential risks to public health and the environment. Several cleanup alternatives were considered and evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to be implemented, and cost. DTSC will review and consider comments received from the public during the 30-day public comment period before making a final decision to approve, modify, or disapprove the preferred cleanup alternative.

Proposed Cleanup Options

The following four cleanup alternatives were considered:

Alternative 1 – No Action

Alternative 2 – Capping involves the installation of a barrier above impacted soils.

Alternative 3 – Excavation and offsite disposal

Alternative 4 – Offsite Disposal

DTSC's Cleanup Recommendation:

Alternative 4

DTSC recommends Alternative 4, Excavation and offsite disposal, which would effectively reduce the potential threat to human health and the environment prior to the expansion of the HMS campus. If this alternative is approved, approximately 153 cubic yards (about 12 truck loads) of chlordane-impacted soil will be excavated and disposed off-site at a permitted disposal facility. The excavated soil will be stockpiled onsite pending waste characterization sampling and acceptance notice from the disposal facility prior to loading of soil.

This activity is expected to take one week to complete. All soil stockpiles will be located in a designated area. Stockpiles will be placed on and covered with an impermeable material to prevent contamination of the ground beneath and to prevent wind browned dust from the stockpiles. If needed, clean import fill material, may be brought to back fill excavated areas where contaminated soil was removed from the school.

Safety and Dust Control During Cleanup

If Alternative 4 is approved, the following activities would occur during the cleanup process to ensure public safety and minimize dust exposure:

- Installation of temporary fencing with windscreens for security and dust control
- Driving all vehicles at slow speeds while on the property
- Spraying excavation area, stockpiles, and soil loading activities with clean water to control dust
- Inspection and securing trucks with covers before they leave the site
- Brushing all truck tires leaving the site to remove soil and debris
- Monitoring the air at the site to ensure the amount of dust stays at safe levels

Excavation activities and off-site disposal should take about one week to complete. If the draft RAW

is approved work activities would occur weekdays between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Approximately 12 truckloads of contaminated soil will be transported to a State-licensed disposal facility. The trucks will be operated by a licensed hazardous waste trucking contractor.

California Environmental Quality Act

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The draft NOE states that this removal action will not have significant impacts on the environment. The draft NOE is available for public review in the information repositories along with the draft RAW.

Next Steps

DTSC will review and consider comments received during the 30-day public comment period before making a final decision to approve, modify, or deny the draft RAW. DTSC will prepare a Response to Comments at the completion of the public comment period. Everyone who submits comments will receive a copy of the Response to Comments. A copy of the Response to Comments will be placed in the information repositories listed on below and become part of the official project Administrative Record,

Where to Find Site Documents

The draft RAW and other related documents may be viewed at the following locations:

Menlo Park City School District

181 Encinal Avenue
Atherton, California 94027
(650)321-7140

Belle Haven Library

413 Ivy Drive
Menlo Park, California 94025
(650)-330-2540

Department of Toxic Substances Control

8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
Call for an appointment (916) 255-3758
Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

DTSC Contact Information

Please contact the following staff for additional information or if you questions or concerns regarding the project.

For project related questions or additional information, contact:

Jose Luevano, DTSC Project Manager, at (916) 255-3577 or JLuevano@dtsc.ca.gov.

For public participation questions, contact: Veronica Lopez-Villasenor, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (916) 255-3651 or Toll free at 1(866) 495-5651 or VLopezvi@dtsc.ca.gov.

For questions from the media, please contact: Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer at (818) 717-6573 or JGarcia@dtsc.ca.gov.

NOTICE TO HEARING IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS

TDD users can obtain information regarding this project by using the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378. Ask the operator to be connect to Veronica Lopez-Villaseñor, Public Participation Specialist at (916) 255-3594.

Location of the Site

